

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended) Method for producing a multi-ply web having at least three plies of flexible material, which comprises:

bringing a first patterned glue transfer roll, having a three dimensional pattern of protuberances, in contact with a first glue application device;

transferring glue to a first web shaped flexible material in a glue pattern of discrete glue sites corresponding to the configuration of the protuberances, the first web shaped flexible material being in contact with an impression roll during the transfer;

bringing a second web shaped flexible material in contact with the glue applied side of said first web shaped flexible material;

bringing a second patterned glue transfer roll having a three dimensional pattern of protuberances in contact with a second glue application device;

transferring glue to one external side of the combined first and second web shaped flexible materials in a second glue

pattern of discrete glue sites corresponding to the configuration of the protuberances of said second glue transfer roll;

bringing a third web shaped flexible material in contact with the glue applied side of said combined first and second web shaped flexible materials in a press nip between a patterned lamination roll and ~~[[an]]~~ the impression roll, said lamination roll having a three dimensional pattern of protuberances corresponding to at least one of the first and second glue patterns,

wherein the glue pattern of said second glue transfer roll is applied, as seen in the thickness direction of the multiply web, substantially aligned with the glue pattern applied by the first glue transfer roll, and the lamination roll and the first and second glue transfer rolls are driven in registry with each other, so that the at least three plies of web shaped flexible material are pressed and glued together in a pattern corresponding to the aligned glue patterns, and

wherein the first web shaped flexible material remains in contact with the impression roll when each of the second and third web shaped flexible materials are combined with the first web shaped flexible material.

2. (original) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein only one lamination roll is provided which is arranged after the second glue transfer roll.

3. (original) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein a first lamination roll and a second lamination roll are provided, the first lamination roll being arranged after the first glue transfer roll having a three dimensional pattern of protuberances corresponding to the first glue pattern and being driven in registry with said first glue transfer roll to press and glue the second web shaped flexible material to the first web shaped flexible material in a pattern corresponding to the first glue pattern, and a second lamination roll being arranged after the second glue transfer roll to press and glue the third web shaped flexible material to the combined first and second web shaped flexible materials in a pattern corresponding to the aligned glue patterns.

4. (original) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein any of said web shaped flexible materials comprises one or more plies of flexible material.

5. (original) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein at least one of the web shaped flexible materials before lamination with the other web shaped materials is exerted to a three dimensional patterning provided on the material while wet, during drying of the wet material and/or in dry state.

6. (original) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein substantially all glue sites of the second glue pattern are applied aligned with the glue sites of the first glue pattern.

7. (currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the size of each glue site ~~(22,23)~~ amounts to between 0.15 and 150 mm<sup>2</sup>.

8. (currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the number of glue sites ~~(22,23)~~ per unit area amounts to between 25 per m<sup>2</sup> to 150 per cm<sup>2</sup>.

9. (currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the glue sites of the first and second glue patterns ~~(22 and 23)~~ are different as to shape, size and/or colour.

10. (currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 9, wherein the glue sites of the first and second glue patterns ~~(22 and 23)~~ when aligned in the thickness direction of the multi-ply web form a pattern, symbol, or figure.

11. (original) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the glues used in the first and second glue application devices are different as to at least one of chemical composition and physical properties.

12. (original) The method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising embossing the multi-ply web after lamination.

13-27. (cancelled)

28. (previously presented) A method for producing a multi-ply web having at least three plies of flexible material, comprising:

bringing a first patterned glue transfer roll, having a three dimensional pattern of protuberances, in contact with a first glue application device;

transferring glue to a first non-embossed web shaped flexible material in a glue pattern of discrete glue sites corresponding to the configuration of the protuberances;

bringing a second non-embossed web shaped flexible material in contact with the glue applied side of said first web shaped flexible material, without substantially deforming the first and second web shaped flexible materials;

bringing a second patterned glue transfer roll having a three dimensional pattern of protuberances in contact with a second glue application device;

transferring glue to one external side of the combined first and second web shaped flexible materials in a second glue pattern of discrete glue sites corresponding to the configuration of the protuberances of said second glue transfer roll;

bringing a third non-embossed web shaped flexible material in contact with the glue applied side of said combined first and second web shaped flexible materials in a press nip between a patterned lamination roll and an impression roll, without substantially deforming said first through third web shaped flexible materials, said lamination roll having a three dimensional pattern of protuberances corresponding to at least one of the first and second glue patterns,

wherein the glue pattern of said second glue transfer roll is applied, as seen in the thickness direction of the multiply web, substantially aligned with the glue pattern applied by the first glue transfer roll, and the lamination roll and the first and second glue transfer rolls are driven in registry with each other, so that the at least three plies of web shaped flexible material are pressed and glued together in a pattern corresponding to the aligned glue patterns.

29. (currently amended) A method for producing a multiply web having at least three plies of flexible material, comprising:

bringing a first patterned glue transfer roll, having a three dimensional pattern of protuberances, in contact with a first glue application device;

transferring glue to a first web shaped flexible material in a glue pattern of discrete glue sites corresponding to a configuration of each of the protuberances, the first web shaped flexible material being in contact with an impression roll during the transfer;

bringing a second web shaped flexible material in contact with the glue applied side of said first web shaped flexible material;

bringing a second patterned glue transfer roll having a three dimensional pattern of protuberances in contact with a second glue application device;

transferring glue to one external side of the combined first and second web shaped flexible materials in a second glue pattern of discrete glue sites corresponding to a configuration of each of the protuberances of said second glue transfer roll; and

bringing a third web shaped flexible material in contact with the glue applied side of said combined first and second web shaped flexible materials in a press nip between a patterned lamination roll and ~~[[an]]~~ the impression roll, said lamination roll having a three dimensional pattern of protuberances corresponding to at least one of the first and second glue patterns,

wherein the glue pattern of said second glue transfer roll is applied, as seen in the thickness direction of the multiply web, substantially aligned with the glue pattern applied by the first glue transfer roll, to form a third pattern without substantially altering the first and second glue patterns, and

wherein the first web shaped flexible material remains in contact with the impression roll when each of the second and third web shaped flexible materials are combined with the first web shaped flexible material.